

Additional Action by the Applicant

CLAIMS.

In order to comply with the Examiner requests and actions the Applicant has taken the following action to further refine the scope of claims and clarify the content of each claim.

- Claim 1 and 2 are currently amended.
- Claims 3 to 5 are canceled.
- Claim 6 is currently amended.
- Claims 7 to 9 are canceled
- Claims 10 and 11 are currently amended.
- Claims 12 to 22 are canceled.
- Claims 23 to 39 are Currently Amended.

This is further detailed below.

Portions of claims that have been deleted are indicated in double-crossout.

Portions of claims that have been newly added are shown in ***bold italics***. The sole purpose of said newly added portions is to illustrate the chemical structure of claimed species, in accordance to Examiner requirement.

[Claim 1] (Currently Amended). A ~~topical~~ Matrix Metalloprotease, MMP, Inhibitor ~~composition~~ comprising at least one hydroxyaryl ~~or polyhydroxyaryl~~ compound that contains an alkyl carbon side chain with a ketone group attached at the first carbon atom of the alkyl side chain, and said ketone group is directly attached to the aromatic ring at a position adjacent to ~~at least one~~ hydroxyl group of hydroxyaryl ~~or polyhydroxyaryl~~ ring, ***the chemical structure of which is in accordance to Figure 1.***

[Claim 2] (Currently Amended). ~~A composition~~ An MMP inhibitor according to claim 1, wherein hydroxyaryl compound is selected from hydroxy or polyhydroxy acetophenones, or hydroxy or polyhydroxy propiophenones and their substituted derivatives ***the chemical structure of which is in accordance to Figure 2.***

[Claim 3] (Canceled). A composition according to claim 1, wherein-hetero-aromatic compound is selected from 2-acetyl-substituted N-hetero-aromatic compounds.

[Claim 4] (Canceled). A composition according to claim 1, wherein hydroxyaryl compound is selected from oxime, or hydrazide, or semicarbazone, or oxamic hydrazone derivatives of hydroxyaryl- or polyhydroxyaryl alkyl ketones.

[Claim 5] (Canceled). A composition according to claim 1, wherein N-hetero-aromatic compound is selected from oxime, or hydrazide, or semicarbazone, or oxamic hydrazone derivatives of N-hetero-aromatic alkyl ketones.

[Claim 6] (Currently Amended). ~~A composition~~ An MMP inhibitor according to claim 1, wherein hydroxyaryl compound contains additional cyclic rings attached at the aromatic ring, ***according to Figure 3.***

[Claim 7] (Canceled). A composition according to claim 1, wherein N-hetero-aromatic compound contains additional cyclic rings attached at the nitrogen hetero-aromatic ring.

[Claim 8] (Canceled). A composition according to claim 1, wherein N-hetero-aromatic compound contains additional hetero-atoms in same ring that contains nitrogen hetero-atom; or in other cyclic ring or rings that are attached to the nitrogen hetero-aromatic ring.

[Claim 9] (Canceled). A composition according to claim 1, wherein the cosmetically or pharmaceutically acceptable delivery system can be traditional water and oil emulsions, suspensions, colloids, microemulsions, clear solutions, suspensions of nanoparticles, emulsions of nanoparticles, powders, or anhydrous compositions.

[Claim 10] (Currently Amended). ~~A composition~~ An MMP inhibitor according to claim 1, wherein hydroxy ~~or polyhydroxy~~-acetophenone compound is selected from 2-hydroxyacetophenone, 3-hydroxyacetophenone, 4-hydroxyacetophenone, 2,3-dihydroxyacetophenone, 2,4-dihydroxyacetophenone, 2,5-dihydroxyacetophenone, 2,6-dihydroxyacetophenone, 3,4-dihydroxyacetophenone, 3,5-dihydroxyacetophenone, 2,4,6-trihydroxyacetophenone, 2,3,4-trihydroxyacetophenone, 2,3,5-trihydroxyacetophenone, 2,3,6-trihydroxyacetophenone, 2,4,5-trihydroxyacetophenone, 3,4,5-trihydroxyacetophenone, Resacetophenone, 2-Acetyl resorcinol, 4-Acetyl resorcinol, 3,4-Dihydroxyacetophenone, acetyl quinol, Quinacetophenone, 1-(3-Hydroxy-4-methoxy-5-methylphenyl) ethanone, 1-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl) ethanone, Paeonol, 5'-Bromo-2'-hydroxyacetophenone, 5'-Chloro-2'-hydroxyacetophenone, 3',5'-Dichloro-2'-hydroxyacetophenone, 3',5'-Dibromo-4'-hydroxyacetophenone, 5-Chloro-3-bromo-2-hydroxyacetophenone, and combinations thereof, ***the chemical structure of which is in accordance to Figure 1.***

[Claim 11] (Currently Amended). ~~A composition A MMP inhibitor~~ according to claim 1, wherein hydroxy or polyhydroxy propiophenone compound is selected from 2-hydroxypropiophenone, 3-hydroxypropiophenone, 4-hydroxypropiophenone, 2,3-dihydroxypropiophenone, 2,4-dihydroxypropiophenone, 2,5-dihydroxypropiophenone, 2,6-dihydroxypropiophenone, 3,4-dihydroxypropiophenone, 3,5-dihydroxypropiophenone, 2,4,6-trihydroxypropiophenone, 2,3,4-trihydroxypropiophenone, 2,3,5-trihydroxypropiophenone, 2,3,6-trihydroxypropiophenone, 2,4,5-trihydroxypropiophenone, 3,4,5-trihydroxypropiophenone, 1-(2,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-2-hydroxyethanone, (2-hydroxyphenyl)(oxo)acetic acid, 1-(2,6-dihydroxyphenyl)-1-butanone, 1-(1-hydroxy-2-naphthyl)ethanone, 1-(2-hydroxy-1-naphthyl)ethanone, 5,7-dihydroxy-1-indanone, 1-(2-hydroxy-5-methylphenyl)-1,3-butanedione, N-(4-acetyl-3-hydroxyphenyl)acetamide, 4-acetyl-3-hydroxyphenyl acetate, 1,1'-(4,6-Dihydroxy-1,3-phenylene)bisethanone, 1-(1-hydroxy-2-naphthyl)ethanone, 2,3-Dihydro-9,10-dihydroxy-1,4-anthracenedione , and combinations thereof, ***the chemical structure of which is in accordance to Figure 2.***

[Claim 12] (Canceled). A composition according to claim 2, wherein oxime, or oxime O-alkyl ether, or hydrazone, or semicarbazone, or oxamic hydrazone derivatives of hydroxy or polyhydroxy acetophenones, or hydroxy or polyhydroxy propiophenones, or combinations thereof, are selected.

[Claim 13] (Canceled). A composition according to claim 2, wherein oxime, or oxime O-alkyl ether, or hydrazone, or semicarbazone, or oxamic hydrazone derivatives of 2-acetyl-N-heteroaromatic, or 2-propionyl-N-heteroaromatic compounds, or combinations thereof, are selected.

[Claim 14] (Canceled). A composition according to claim 3, wherein N-hetero-aromatic compound is selected from 2-acetylpyridine, 2-Acetyl-4-methylpyridine, 1-(1-oxido-2-pyridinyl)ethanone, 2,6-Diacetylpyridine, 3-(Dimethylamino)-1-(2-pyridinyl)-2-propen-1-one, 1,8-Diazafluoren-9-one, 2-phenyl-1-(2-pyridinyl)ethanone, 3-phenyl-1-(2-pyridinyl)-2-propen-1-one, 1-(2-pyridinyl)-3-(3-pyridinyl)-2-propen-1-one, 2-hydroxy-1,2-di(2-pyridinyl)ethanone, 1-(2-pyridinyl)-3-(2-thienyl)-2-propen-1-one, 3-(2-hydroxyphenyl)-1-(2-pyridinyl)-2-propen-1-one, 3-(1-oxido-2-pyridinyl)-1-(2-pyridinyl)-2-propen-1-one, 2-acetylpyrrole, 2-Acetyl-1-methylpyrrole, 2-chloro-1-(1H-pyrrol-2-yl)ethanone, 2-(Trifluoroacetyl)pyrrole, 1,4-dihydrocyclopenta[b]indol-3(2H)-one, 2,3,4,9-tetrahydro-1H-carbazol-1-one, (2E)-1,3-di(1H-pyrrol-2-yl)-2-propen-1-one, (2E)-3-phenyl-1-(1H-pyrrol-2-yl)-2-propen-1-one, 2-acetylimidazole, 1-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-1H-imidazol-4-yl)ethanone, 1-(5,6-dimethyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)ethanone, (4-chlorophenyl)(1-methyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)methanone, (2E)-1-(1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-3-(4-pyridinyl)-2-propen-1-one, 1-[1-(4-methylbenzyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]ethanone, (2E)-1-(1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-3-(2-fluorophenyl)-2-propen-1-one, (2E)-1-(1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-3-(2-chlorophenyl)-2-propen-1-one, (2E)-1-(5-chloro-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-3-phenyl-2-propen-1-one, 1-[1-(2-chlorobenzyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]ethanon, (2E)-1-(5,6-dichloro-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-3-(4-pyridinyl)-2-propen-1-one, 2-acetylthiazole, 1-(1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl)ethanone, 2-acetylpyrimidine, 2-acetylindole, 2-acetyl-1-methylpyrrole, 2-acetyl-4-methylpyridine, 1-acetylphenothiazine, 2-hydroxy-1-acetylphenothiazine, 8-hydroxy-9-acetylphenanthrene, 2-acetylpyrazine, 1-(3-methyl-2-pyrazinyl)ethanone, 2-acetylquinoline, 2-acetyl-8-hydroxyquinoline, 2-acetyltryptophane, 2-acetyltryptophanamide, 2-acetylpyridine N-oxide, 2-acetylquinazoline, 2-acetylquinoxaline, 3-acetylpyridazine, 6,6'-diacetyl-2,2'-pyridyl, 3-acetyl-1,2,4-trizol, and combinations thereof.

[Claim 15] (Canceled). A composition according to claim 4, wherein oxime derivatives of hydroxyaryl compositions are selected from 2-

hydroxyacetophenone oxime, 2,3-dihydroxyacetophenone oxime, 2,4-dihydroxyacetophenone oxime, 2,5-dihydroxyacetophenone oxime, Resacetophenone oxime, acetyl quinol oxime, Quinacetophenone oxime, Paeonol oxime, 2-hydroxypropiophenone oxime, 2,3-dihydroxypropiophenone oxime , 2,4-dihydroxypropiophenone oxime, 2,5-dihydroxypropiophenone oxime, 7-acetyl-5,8-dihydroxyquinoline oxime, and combinations thereof.

[Claim 16] (Canceled). A composition according to claim 6, wherein hydroxyaryl compound is selected from 1-hydroxy-2-acetylnaphthalene; 1-hydroxy-2-acetyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalene; 7-acetyl-8-hydroxyquinoline; 3-acetyl-4-hydroxyacridine; 6-acetyl-7-hydroxybenzothiazole, and combinations thereof.

[Claim 17] (Canceled). A compound according to claim 8, wherein N-hetero-aromatic compound contains additional hetero-atoms that are selected from N, S, or O, or combinations thereof, in same ring that contains nitrogen hetero-atom, or in other cyclic ring or rings that are attached to the nitrogen hetero-aromatic ring.

[Claim 18] (Canceled). A composition according to claim 9, wherein cosmetically or pharmaceutically acceptable topical delivery system or carrier base composition additionally contains hydroxy or polyhydroxy flavones, hydroxy or polyhydroxy coumarins, hydroxy or polyhydroxy isoflavones, hydroxy or polyhydroxy chromanones, and hydroxy or polyhydroxy chromones, and combinations thereof.

[Claim 19] (Canceled). A composition according to claim 9, wherein a cosmetically or pharmaceutically acceptable topical delivery system or carrier

base composition additionally contains a divalent or a polyvalent metal ion or combinations thereof.

[Claim 20] (Canceled). A composition according to claim 9, wherein cosmetically or pharmaceutically acceptable delivery system or carrier base can optionally include additional skin beneficial ingredients selected from skin cleansers, surfactants (cationic, anionic, non-ionic, amphoteric, and zwitterionic), skin and hair conditioning agents, vitamins, hormones, minerals, plant extracts, anti-inflammatory agents, concentrates of plant extracts, emollients, moisturizers, skin protectants, humectants, silicones, skin soothing ingredients, analgesics, skin penetration enhancers, solubilizers, moisturizers, emollients, anesthetics, colorants, perfumes, preservatives, seeds, broken seed nut shells, silica, clays, beads, luffa particles, polyethylene balls, mica, pH adjusters, processing aids, and combinations thereof.

[Claim 21] (Canceled). A composition according to claim 19, wherein divalent metal ions are selected from copper, zinc, iron, selenium, vanadium, manganese, and combinations thereof.

[Claim 22] (Canceled). A composition according to claim 20, wherein anti-inflammatory agents are selected from Boswellia serrata, Corosolic acid (Banaba), Ursolic acid, Oleanolic acid, Salicinol (Salacia), Rosmarinic acid, Ruscogenins, Darutoside, Asiaticoside, Sericoside, Harpagoside (Devil's Claw), Magnolia Bark (Honokiol, Magnolol), Horse Chestnut (Escin, Esculin), Ginger (Gingerol), Turmeric Extract (Tetrahydrocurcuminoids), Corydalis, Myricetin, and combinations thereof.

[Claim 23] (Currently Amended). ~~A composition~~ *An MMP inhibitor* according to claim 1, wherein a carrier base is included.

[Claim 24] (Currently Amended). ~~A composition~~ *An MMP inhibitor* according to claim 1, wherein a divalent metal ion is included.

[Claim 25] (Currently Amended). ~~A composition~~ *An MMP inhibitor* according to claim 1, wherein hydroxyaryl or polyhydroxy compound is 2,4-Dihydroxyacetophenone, *having chemical structure in Figure 4*, and wherein $Z=O$; $n=2$, which is 2,4-Dihydroxy; $R=H$; and $R_1=CH_3$.

[Claim 26] (Currently Amended). ~~A composition~~ *An MMP inhibitor* according to claim 6, wherein hydroxyaryl compound is further selected from 1-hydroxy-2-acetylnaphthalene; 1-hydroxy-2-acetyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalene; 7-acetyl-8-hydroxyquinoline; 3-acetyl-4-hydroxyacridine; 6-acetyl-7-hydroxybenzothiazole, ~~and~~ or combinations thereof.

[Claim 27] (Currently Amended). ~~A composition~~ *An MMP inhibitor* according to claim 23, wherein a carrier base is selected from water and oil emulsions, suspensions, colloids, microemulsions, clear solutions, suspensions of nanoparticles, emulsions of nanoparticles, powders, or anhydrous compositions.

[Claim 28] (Currently Amended). ~~A composition~~ *An MMP inhibitor* according to claim 24, wherein divalent metal ion is selected from copper, zinc, iron, selenium, vanadium, manganese, and combinations thereof.

[Claim 29] (Currently Amended). A ~~topical~~ Matrix Metalloprotease, MMP, Inhibitor ~~composition~~ comprising at least one N-hetero-aromatic compound that contains an alkyl carbon side chain with a ketone group attached at the first carbon atom of the alkyl side chain, and said ketone group is directly attached to the nitrogen hetero-aromatic ring at a position adjacent to the aromatic ring nitrogen atom, ***the chemical structure of which is in accordance to Figure 5.***

[Claim 30] (Currently Amended). ~~A composition An MMP inhibitor~~ according to claim 29, wherein-hetero-aromatic compound is further selected from 2-acetyl-substituted N-hetero-aromatic compounds, ***the chemical structure of which is in accordance to Figure 6.***

[Claim 31] (Currently Amended). ~~A composition An MMP inhibitor~~ according to claim 29, wherein N-hetero-aromatic compound contains additional cyclic rings attached at the nitrogen hetero-aromatic ring, ***the chemical structure of which is in accordance to Figure 7.***

[Claim 32] (Currently Amended). ~~A composition An MMP inhibitor~~ according to claim 29, wherein N-hetero-aromatic compound contains additional hetero-atoms in same ring that contains nitrogen hetero-atom; or in other cyclic ring or rings that are attached to the nitrogen hetero-aromatic ring, ***the chemical structure of which is in accordance to Figure 7.***

[Claim 33] (Currently Amended). ~~A composition An MMP inhibitor~~ according to claim 29, wherein a carrier base is included.

[Claim 34] (Currently Amended). ~~A composition~~ **An MMP inhibitor**

according to claim 29, wherein a divalent metal ion is included.

[Claim 35] (Currently Amended). ~~A composition~~ **An MMP inhibitor**

according to claim 29, wherein N-hetero-aromatic compound is further selected from 2-acetylpyridine, 2-Acetyl-4-methylpyridine, 1-(1-oxido-2-pyridinyl)ethanone, 2,6-Diacetylpyridine, 3-(Dimethylamino)-1-(2-pyridyl)-2-propen-1-one, 1,8-Diazafluoren-9-one, 2-phenyl-1-(2-pyridinyl)ethanone, 3-phenyl-1-(2-pyridinyl)-2-propen-1-one, 1-(2-pyridinyl)-3-(3-pyridinyl)-2-propen-1-one, 2-hydroxy-1,2-di(2-pyridinyl)ethanone, 1-(2-pyridinyl)-3-(2-thienyl)-2-propen-1-one, 3-(2-hydroxyphenyl)-1-(2-pyridinyl)-2-propen-1-one, 3-(1-oxido-2-pyridinyl)-1-(2-pyridinyl)-2-propen-1-one, 2-acetylpyrrole, 2-Acetyl-1-methylpyrrole, 2-chloro-1-(1H-pyrrol-2-yl)ethanone, 2-(Trifluoroacetyl)pyrrole, 1,4-dihydrocyclopenta[b]indol-3(2H)-one, 2,3,4,9-tetrahydro-1H-carbazol-1-one, (2E)-1,3-di(1H-pyrrol-2-yl)-2-propen-1-one, (2E)-3-phenyl-1-(1H-pyrrol-2-yl)-2-propen-1-one, 2-acetylimidazole, 1-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-1H-imidazol-4-yl) ethanone, 1-(5,6-dimethyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)ethanone, (4-chlorophenyl)(1-methyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl) methanone, (2E)-1-(1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-3-(4-pyridinyl)-2-propen-1-one, 1-[1-(4-methylbenzyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]ethanone, (2E)-1-(1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-3-(2-fluorophenyl)-2-propen-1-one, (2E)-1-(1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-3-(2-chlorophenyl)-2-propen-1-one, (2E)-1-(5-chloro-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-3-phenyl-2-propen-1-one, 1-[1-(2-chlorobenzyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl] ethanone, (2E)-1-(5,6-dichloro-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-3-(4-pyridinyl)-2-propen-1-one, 2-acetylthiazole, 1-(1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl)ethanone, 2-acetylpyrimidine, 2-acetylindole, 2-acetyl-1-methylpyrrole, 2-acetyl-4-methylpyridine, 1-acetylphenothiazine, 2-hydroxy-1-acetylphenothiazine, 8-hydroxy-9-acetylphenanthrene, 2-acetylpyrazine, 1-(3-methyl-2-pyrazinyl)ethanone, 2-acetylquinoline, 2-acetyl-8-hydroxyquinoline, 2-acetyltryptophane, 2-acetyltryptophanamide, 2-acetylpyridine N-oxide, 2-acetylquinazoline, 2-acetylquinoxaline, 3-acetylpyridazine, 6,6'-diacetyl-2,2'-pyridyl, 3-acetyl-1,2,4-

trizol, ~~and/or~~ combinations thereof, ***the chemical structure of which is in accordance to Figure 6 and Figure 7.***

[Claim 36] (Currently Amended). ~~A composition An MMP inhibitor~~ according to claim 29, wherein N-hetero-aromatic compound is 2-acetyl-8-hydroxyquinoline.

[Claim 37] (Currently Amended). ~~A compound An MMP inhibitor~~ according to claim 32, wherein N-hetero-aromatic compound contains additional hetero-atoms that are selected from N, S, or O, or combinations thereof, in same ring that contains nitrogen hetero-atom, or in other cyclic ring or rings that are attached to the nitrogen hetero-aromatic ring, ***the chemical structure of which is in accordance to Figure7.***

[Claim 38] (Currently Amended). ~~A composition An MMP inhibitor~~ according to claim 33, wherein a carrier is selected from water and oil emulsions, suspensions, colloids, microemulsions, clear solutions, suspensions of nanoparticles, emulsions of nanoparticles, powders, or anhydrous compositions.

[Claim 39] (Currently Amended). ~~A composition An MMP inhibitor~~ according to claim 34, wherein divalent metal ion is selected from copper, zinc, iron, selenium, vanadium, manganese, ~~and~~ ***or*** combinations thereof.

The status of each claim is further tabulated below under “Claims” section.